

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Serial No. 09/671,092

PATENT APPLICATION

REMARKS

Reconsideration and further examination of this application is hereby requested. Claims 1-17 and 27-30 are currently pending in the application. Claims 18-26 have been canceled.

Applicant appreciates the allowance of claims 1-17 and 27-30.

Claims 18 and 19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over *Wreede* '516. Claim 18 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over *Wreede* '951. Claims 20-26 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over *Moss*. Applicant does not agree with these rejections and believes that claims 18-26 define over the prior art. Nevertheless, in order to expedite prosecution, Applicant has canceled rejected claims 18-26 so that the allowed claims may pass to issue without delay.

Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is now in condition for allowance with claims 1-17 and 27-30. If there remain any issues that may be disposed of via a telephonic interview, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned at the local exchange given below.

Date: June 10, 2002

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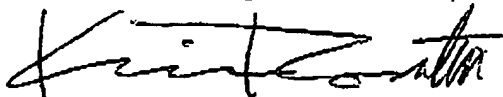
Atty. Dkt. No.: 2462-002

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The Commissioner is authorized to charge any necessary fees,
and conversely, deposit any credit balance, to Deposit Account
No. 18-1579.

Respectfully submitted,



Kevin L. Pontius
Reg. No. 37,512

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